

MINUTES

Of The 19th Annual Session of

BIG CREEK

MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

SPRING RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH,

FULTON Co. ARK., Sept. 23—25, 1893.

NEXT SESSION to be held with

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH

FULTON COUNTY Co. Ark.

SATURDAY before the 4th SUNDAY

In Sept 1894.

OFFICERS:

Eld. W. H. BOWLING, MOD., UNION, Ark.

ISHAM A. LOVELACE, CLERK, BEXAR, Ark.

CENTRAL MISSION BOARD:

J. D. BRATCHER, BEXAR, Ark.

J. D. COCHRAN, UNION, Ark.

T. J. LOVELACE, OXFORD, Ark.

ORDER *of* BUSINESS.

SECOND DAY.

1. Roll Call.
2. Reading the minutes of Saturday's proceedings.
3. Call for churches not represented Saturday, renewed
4. Renew the invitation for churches bearing petitionary letters
5. Renew the invitation for visiting ministers.
6. Renew the invitation for correspondent messengers.
7. Call for report of committee on Sabbath Schools.
8. Call for report the committee on Finance.
9. Call for report of the committee on Baptist Literature.
10. Call for report of the committee on Destitution.
11. Call for report of the committee on Home Missions.
12. Call for report of the committee on Foreign Missions.
13. Call for report of the committee on Christian Education.
14. Call for report of the Mission Board.
15. Arrange correspondence to sister Association.
16. Select a place for holding the next Association.
17. Select a brother to preach the Introductory sermon.
18. Miscellaneous business.

MINUTES,

The Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association convened in its nineteenth annual session with Spring River Baptist Church, Fulton Co., Arkansas. September 23, 1893, at 11 o'clock, A. M. Eld. J. E. Cargill being absent the Introductory Sermon was preached by his alternate, Eld. W. H. Bowling, from Matt. XVI; 18. After preaching the Association was called to order by the former Moderator, Eld. J. R. Cooper.

Elders W. H. Bowling and J. P. Lovelace were appointed reading clerks. The names of churches were called, their letters presented and read, and Messengers' names enrolled.

Brothers A. Weaver and W. Ford were appointed tellers and an election for Moderator and Clerk had, which resulted in the election of Eld. W. H. Bowling, Moderator, and I. A. Lovelace, Clerk. After a few remarks by the Moderator the Association proceeded to business as follows:

1. Call for petitionary letters. Lone Oak Baptist Church presented a letter by her messengers, J. D. Denton and S. F. Milner, who, being sound in the Missionary Baptist faith, were admitted into the body and the right hand of fellowship was extended to them by the Moderator.

2. Call for corresponding messengers from sister Associations, whereupon Brothers Allen Weaver from State Line, and W. S. Ford from Eleven Points Associations offered correspondence, which on motion was opened with said Association.

3. An invitation was extended to visiting ministers. None.

4. Appointment of Committees.

1. On Religious Exercises—J. C. Smith, T. Bronaugh and E. C. Stroud.

2. Baptist Literature—H. B. Clinton, J. G. Carroll and T. Bronaugh,

3. Sabbath Schools—James Vernor, W. L. Reed and T. J. Lovelace.

4. Home Missions—W. A. Holloway, J. P. Lovelace and S. M. Oliver.

5. Finance—J. W. Grisso and J. F. Johns.
 6. Foreign Missions—J. R. Cooper, J. D. Bratcher and W. M. Talley.
 7. Christian Education—J. R. Cooper, John Chadwick and J. P. Lovelace.
 8. Destitution—David McElmurry, J. T. Hudson, W. A. Holway, T. Bronaugh, S. M. Oliver and T. F. Cargill.
- On motion the Association adjourned till Monday, 8 A. M.
Prayer by Eld. J. P. Lovelace.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

Monday, September 25, 1893.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. W. S. Ford. Roll called and absentees marked. Minutes of Saturday read and approved.

1. Call renewed for Churches not represented on Saturday, when Viola and Liberty Churches presented letters which were read and their messengers names enrolled.

2. Call renewed for Churches bearing petitionary letters, when Mammoth Spring Baptist Church presented a letter by her Messenger, W. R. Cash, who being sound in the Missionary Baptist faith, was received and the right hand of fellowship extended to him by the Moderator.

3. An invitation was extended to visiting ministers, when W. A. Clark, D. D., Editor of The Arkansas Baptist, and W. M. Duren, of Rocky Bayou Association, came forward and were welcomed to seats.

4. Call for corresponding messengers. None.

5. Call for the report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools. Report read and adopted. (See Appendix "A")

6. Committee on Finance granted further time.

7. Call for the report of the Committee on Baptist Literature. Report read and, after speeches by W. A. Clark, D. D., and Elders W. M. Duren and J. P. Lovelace, was adopted. (See Appendix "B.")

8. Call for the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions, which was read and, after a speech by Elder W. H. Bowling, was adopted. (See Appendix "C")

9. Called for report of the Committee on Destitution, which was read and adopted. (See Appendix D).

10. Called for the report of the Committee on Home Mission which was read and after speeches by Elds J P Lovelace, W M Duren and Bro. J W Carroll, Jr. was adopted, (See Appendix E).

11. By motion the regular order of business was suspended for preaching. At 11 A M Eld. W A Clark, D. D. preached on the security of believers, after which adjourned for refreshments, which were served on the ground.

— EVENING SESSION

The Association resumed business.

1. Called for the report of the Committee on Christian Education which was read and adopted, (See Appendix F.)

2. Called for the report of the Committee on Finance, which was read and adopted, (See Appendix G.)

3. Called for the report of the Central Mission Board, which was read and adopted, (See Appendix H.)

4. The Association arranged correspondence with sister Associations as follows:

To Eleven Points, W. R. Cash and J. C. Mynatte.

To State Line, J. B. Hackett, J. Bronaugh and J. Bell.

To Rocky Bayou, W. L. Reed, James Verner, J. P. Lovelace, H. B. Clinton and W. H. Bowling.

To White River, Henry Dixon and J. W. Carroll, Jr.

To Union, J. G. Carroll and David McElmurry.

To Spring River, to Correspond by letter:

5. Pleasant Grove Church was selected for the next meeting of the Association.

6. Eld. J. P. Lovelace was elected to preach the Introductory Sermon and Eld. T. F. Cargill alternate.

NOTICE—Is hereby given that at the next meeting of this Association there will be an amendment submitted to the Constitution to change the delegates from four to each Church, to four to each Church and an additional delegate for each twenty members, or a majority fraction thereof.—E. R. Lucas.

11. On motion it was decided to elect the Central Mission Board. Eld. W. M. Duren was appointed teller of the election, which resulted in the choice of Brothers J. D. Bratcher, J. D. Cochran and T. J. Lovelace.

12. The Clerk was instructed to have 300 copies of the minutes printed, and have for his services the balance of the fund.

13. Elder W. H. Bowling was elected delegate to the Baptist State Convention.

14. The Constitution was amended so as to allow all ordained ministers and boards connected with the body by appointment to become members of the same.

15. We return our heart felt thanks to Sping River Church and community for kind hospitalities shown us during the sitting of the Association.

16. Adjourned to meet with Pleasant Grove Church, 9 miles north of Salem, Ark., on Saturday at 11 A. M., before the fourth Sunday in September, 1894. The closing prayer was offered by Elder H. B. Clinton. While singing the Messengers took the parting hand.

W. H. Bowling, Moderator:

Isham A. Lovelace, Clerk:

APPENDIX.

A

We, your committee ou Sabbath Schools, beg leave to submit the following report: We find very little interest taken in the Sabbath School work in our bounds. We believe in youth is the proper time to teach good morals and there is no better place to teach them than in the Sabbath School, for the seed sown in youth will be gathered in manhood. Were an evergreen Sabbath school carried on in everychurch there would be more souls brought to Christ. Therefore we do earnestly urge the ministers and every member in our bounds to go to work and organize Sabbath schools, and carry them on during the entire year:

W. L. Reed, Chairman:

B

We, your committe on Baptist Literature, would respectfully submit the following: Believing that the Bible is the word of God, and only rule of faith and practice, we earnestly and prayerfully recommend the study of the Holy Bible by all our people:

it being a safe and sure literature. We also believe the *Arkansas Baptist*, our state paper, is sound in the faith and in accord with the teachings of the Bible. H. B. Clinton, Chairman.

C

We, your committee on Foreign Missions, submit the following: We believe it is the duty of our members to contribute of their means to the support of the gospel in foreign lands, and we recommend that the pastors take up collections for Foreign Missions during the next Associational year. J. R. Cooper, Ch'm.

D

We, your committee on destitution, beg leave to submit the following: Whereas, there is no Baptist preaching from Salem to Mammoth Spring, from Salem northwest to the state line, also in the west bounds of this Association, and we would recommend that there be a missionary to occupy the said grounds. Respectfully submitted, S. M. Oliver, Chairman.

E

We, your committee on Home Missions, submit the following: We find that within the bounds of our Association there has been a great work done for the cause of Christ, and the Baptist cause is being built up in our country through the earnest work of our ministers, and we recommend a continuation of the same and that the clerks of our churches act as collecting agents and make a quarterly report to the Central Mission Board.

S. M. Oliver, Chairman.

F

With the rapid increase in educational sentiments, there has also grown up a spirit of skepticism which can only be met by christian education. We urge our people to rally to the support of our Baptist Schools, Ouachita College, Mountain Home College, and Central Female Baptist College; also, that we use our influence toward securing christian teachers in our public schools.

J. R. Cooper, Chairman.

G

We, your committee on finance report the amount collected for minutes, \$14.75:

J. W. Grisso, Chairman.

We, your Central Mission Board appointed at your last Association, respectfully submit the following report: We employed Eld. J. W. Weatherbee to travel and preach in the bounds of this association at \$1.50 per day, conditioned that if work over run our means he would not hold it against us. His report of work amounts to \$94.50, with a credit of \$42.80. Balance due \$51.70. Collected—from Mt. Zion Church \$8.50 and from individual members \$20.90—total from Mt. Zion.....\$29.40 Liberty Hill \$2.35 Cross Roads \$.25 J. H. Soden \$1.00—..\$ 3.60 Public collection 60 cts. From the field \$9.20—.....\$ 9.80
Total\$42.80

We have on subscription unpaid 1, 2, 3 and 4 years old \$85.00

Respectfully submitted-

J. D. Bratcher, Chairman.

REPORT OF MISSIONARY.

I would make the following report: Miles traveled 1615, families visited 189, preached 78 sermons, days work 63, exhortations 12, sermons by others 23, conversions 10, deacons ordained 4, churches organized 1, cash collected on the field \$9.20, received of the Board \$33.60, Total receipts \$42.80,

J. W. Weatherbee, Missionary.

NAMES of CHURCHES and MESSENGERS.

Mt. Zion—W. H. Bowling, J. P. Lovelace, J. D. Bratcher, J. E. Cochran;	Mt. Pleasant—J. B. Hackett;
Shady Grove—J. R. Cooper. S. M. Oliver, W. L. Wood.	Cross Roads—J. H. Chadwick, H. L. White.
Liberty Hill—L. A. Lovelace; T. J. Lovelace.	Little Strawberry—J. F. Chadwick;
New Prospect—W. L. Reed, James Vernet, H. B. Clinton.	S. W. Daily.
Pleasant Grove—W. A. Hollaway, J. F. Cristy.	Oak Grove—J. F. Johns, E. McElmury
Enterprise—J. W. Grisso, Lee Wood.	Macedonia—William Talley, R. S. Black;
Bethlehem—M. M. Smith, W. B. Watts.	Spring River—J. C. Smith. T. Bronaugh; E. E. Stroud.
Shiloh—Represented by letter.	Lone Oak—J. D. Denton;
	Viola—T. F. Cargill, J. G. Carroll;
	J. W. Carroll; Henry Dixon.
	Liberty—E. R. Lucas;
	Mammoth Spring—W. R. Cash;
	Pleasant Ridge—Not Represented.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be known by the name of "Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association."

ART. 2. The members composing the annual meetings of the association shall consist of the messengers sent by the churches, ordained ministers and boards connected to this body by reason of appointment.

ART. 3. The messengers sent by the churches to the annual meetings, shall not exceed four from each church.

ART. 4. The association shall meet annually, at such time and place as shall have previously been appointed.

ART. 5. The officers of this association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by a majority of the Messengers, annually, at the annual meeting of the body.

ART. 6 This association shall have no power to controled or regulate the internal affairs or discipline of any church, but it may adopt or recommend all such measures as shall be considered best calculated to produce the harmony and the prosperity of the churches, and to advance the Redeemer's Kingdom, and advise and consult upon matters as the churches may at any time present for their consideration and advice. It may receive churches in this association, or dismiss churches from the body, inquire into the state of Religion on it bounds, and suggest measures for its advancement, and be a common bond of Union among the churches, but shall not exercise any legislative power over the churches.

ART. 7. This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided notice has been given at a previous meeting.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES	POST OFFICE	PASTOR	CLERK	Days of Meeting		Received by letter	Received by letter	Received by Recommendation	Dismissed by letter	Excluded	Died	Total membership	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Value Church property	Minute funds	Amount paid Pastor
Mt. Zion	Union	J. E. Lovelace	S. W. Cochran	3	5	4	0	1	0	0	1	107	29.50	50	0	185	75
Shady Grove	Slem	J. R. Cooper	S. M. Oliver	4	—	—	—	—	7	0	0	79	0.00	0.00	250	1.00	0.00
Liberty Hill	Oxford	J. H. Soden	L. A. Lovelace	1	1	4	—	1	12	4	1	65	2.35	0.00	1.50	1.85	0.00
New Prospt	Thomasv	J. P. Lovelace	W. I. Smith	4	12	10	—	—	2	0	0	35	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
Pleasant Gro	Ten Mile	W. H. Bowling	J. F. Cristy	1	11	1	1	1	—	0	1	46	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.15	10.
Enterprise	Vidette	J. R. Cooper	C. A. Webb	3	4	1	—	—	—	3	0	29	0.00	0.00	0.00	50	0.00
Mt. Pleasant	M'm. Spr'g	.....	J. B. Hackett	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	0	13	0.00	0.00	0.00	30	0.00
Bethlehem	Salem	J. R. Cooper	W. M. Smith	2	7	1	—	1	—	0	0	15	0.00	0.00	0.00	50	0.00
Shiloh	Forra	J. R. Cooper	W. A. Mize	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	49	0.00	0.00	0.00	75	0.00
Cross Roads	Union	J. P. Lovelace	W. L. Gibson	2	—	—	—	—	3	0	2	29	0.00	0.00	0.00	50	0.00
Little Stra'b'	Salem	H. B. Clinton	J. T. Porterfd	2	—	—	—	—	—	5	0	25	0.00	0.00	0.00	50	0.00
Oak Grove	Moody Mo	T. F. Cargill	J. F. Johns	2	1	—	—	—	2	0	0	17	0.00	0.00	0.00	75	0.00
Macedonia	Byron	B. L. Chadwick	J. H. Copela'd	—	—	1	—	1	21	2	0	26	0.00	0.00	1.00	65	0.00
Spring Riv'r	Hardy	S. M. McCullo'h	Ed McKaug'n	..	2	3	—	..	2	0	0	36	1.75	0.00	0.00	50	0.00
Lone Oak	Salem	.....	J. D. Denton	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	7	0.00	0.00	0.00	50	0.00
Liberty	Viola	T. F. Cargill	J. W. Battles	3	6	5	—	4	5	0	2	48	0.00	0.00	0.00	70	0.00
Viola	Viola	J. E. Cargill	J. W. Carroll	4	14	5	—	—	—	0	1	50	0.00	0.00	0.00	75	30
Mam. Spring	M. Sping	.....	S. C. Estes	4	..	9	1	..	..	0	0	22	3.50	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
Pleasant Ri'g	Wild Ch'y	J. P. Lovelace	J. A. Shelton	...	..	..	..	..	..	0	0	29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Totals,				63	42	2	8	57	18	9	767	\$37.10	\$50	\$400	\$14.75	\$115	